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FREE

THE STUDENT VOICE

WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE

APRIL 23, 2002

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Healey and Romney at Massachusetts Republican Convention

PHOTO BY MARK WILMOT

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Worcester
State
College, in
WoMag's
2002 Best
of
Worcester
poll, was
voted "best
college."
Neat.

NEXT ISSUE

The Student
Vice

Details of student evaluations of faculty revealed

By Glen McEntire
VOICE STAFF

The student evaluation of faculty, which takes place at the end of each semester at Worcester State College, is a ticklish matter. So ticklish, in fact, that the terms and frequency of the evaluations are written into the college faculty's contract.

Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs David A. Caruso is responsible for overseeing the faculty evaluations. To assess its professors' performances, WSC utilizes a standardized test called the SIR II, which is a product of national educational testing and measurement industry leader *Educational Testing Service*. "The process used to evaluate people is a negotiated item," Caruso said.

According to Caruso, the rules that govern faculty assessment are different for the college's tenured, non-tenured and adjunct professors. For tenured professors, there are two levels of courses that are subject to evaluation: 100- and 200-level courses comprise the first, while 300- and 400-level courses make up the second.

"For the standard four-course load, which most professors carry, a tenured professor is required to be evaluated only once for each level," Caruso said. For non-tenured and adjunct professors, however, the going is a little more stringent. "Any course they teach has to be evaluated," he said.

WSC freshman Lizzett Reina feels that tenured professors should be evaluated as often as non-tenured and adjunct professors in order to ensure continued high professional standards at the college. She also favors more frequent student evaluations of the college's faculty.

more EVALUATIONS page 6

College failing to implement policy Sexual Assault Protocol unknown on campus

By Danielle Williamson
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Questions of whether Worcester State College is doomed to repeat its mistakes have risen from members of the college community who feel that faculty, students and staff are largely unaware of the college's sexual assault procedures.

Furthermore, some provisions in the sexual assault protocol have not been met. Meetings that were supposed to be held regularly are few and far between, and a group of on-campus volunteer advocates for survivors of sexual assaults has yet to be established.

Though the college's Sexual Assault Response Team met on April 9, soon after a sexual assault was reported on campus, it was the first time it had met this year. The SART was established, as written into the protocol, "to address the safety needs of the WSC community while protecting the survivor's right to privacy and ensuring the integrity of any police investigation or college disciplinary action."

When asked why the meeting had been called, Sexual Assault Coordinator Deb Gaston said, "because Ruth Haber asked me to." Haber, an English professor active in campus safety committees, has been paying close attention to whether or not the college is enforcing the guidelines it set more than two years ago.

Four sexual assaults have been reported to campus authorities from January 2001 to January 2002, according to Chief of Police Rosemary Naughton. Only one SART meeting was held during that time.

"Time has passed, and I think the administration is hoping it will all go away again," said Haber, referring to what many people believed was a cover-up of a rape that allegedly occurred at WSC three years ago. Haber is discouraged that the college seems to have been more reactive than proactive, when dealing with cases of sexual assault.

On April 19, 1999, the Monday after an Anna Maria College student told officials at AMC that she had been raped at WSC over the preceding weekend, Carol Williams, a dean at AMC, informed Paul Joseph, then WSC Dean of Student Development, about the alleged assault. Joseph learned that the two men accused of the crime were student-athletes at WSC. On March 27, 2000, the two men were arraigned, and a subsequent story appeared in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette. The day the story ran—more than a year after the assault was said to have occurred—WSC officials posted a campus advisory. This was the college's first public response to the matter.

"Why did we need to wait until there were scandals in the local paper to show concern about student safety? Why weren't procedures being enforced all along?" Haber questioned.

The delay in addressing the allegations against two of its students drew citywide criticism for college officials. President Kalyan K. Ghosh, at the request of the college's board of trustees, commissioned a professional evaluator to critique the judicial system. A report conducted by Donald D. Gehring, president of Donald D. Gehring & Associates Inc., concluded that the college's judicial system, and specifically the way in which it handled sexual assaults, was in need of serious repair.

These repairs came in the form of a "Protocol for Responding to Sexual Assaults." This extensive, 15-page document includes seven checklists of procedures to follow if a student reports a sexual assault. The policy was approved in August 2000, and was distributed to faculty and staff on the first day of the fall semester's classes. Though the SART recently agreed in its meeting to make the protocol more widely available on campus, it has gone largely unnoticed by many campus community members. Furthermore, the document includes provisions for a group of trained volunteer advocates for sexual assault survivors—a group of advocates, who, at this point in time, don't exist.

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E/O

Editorial/Opinion

Danielle Williamson

Executive Board

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The Student Voice of Worcester State College

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The Student Voice welcomes letter, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-In-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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It seems like the thought police are trying to barge their way into Worcester State College, disguised as our very own student senators.

If I may, for a moment, direct your attention to page 10, (before or after you read my insightful editorial), you will see that the student senate has drafted a "Policy on Intellectual Integrity."

A section of the first paragraph of the policy's executive summary sums it up for me: "The Student Senate, with sincere support from the student body, wishes to preserve the assumption that lectures, seminars, textbooks and printed material presented at Worcester State College are firmly anchored in proven theories, statistics, facts or distortion-free statements that can be sustained by reasonable or truthful research and discovery."

In short, learning material must be screened before it reaches our fragile and embryonic minds.

I see what the Senate is trying to do, and I can respect it. Yes, Worcester State College, along with, I'm willing to bet, every other environment that facilitates learning, has at one time or another hosted a less-than-professional speaker. After leaving one lecture, I think I may have actually lost a few IQ points. Oh well. You win some, you lose some. Additionally, I'm always annoyed when Joe Schmoe gets up in front of class and starts babbling without credibility. And we all know there are professors who are especially passionate about a particular subject, and because of this, some of their lectures, as the draft says, contain "themes of special interests, agendas, or political ideologies."

But couldn't these special interests, agendas and ideologies also be the interest of some of our students? Should we not be able to evaluate their "intellectual integrity" by ourselves?

Part of the learning process is to develop a mind of one's own, to evaluate sources, and to decide for oneself whether a particular argument is fallible.

Do we really need, because we're relegated to state college citizenship, to have cleared any information that is going to be presented to us?

The policy reminds me of an overprotective parent checking through Halloween candy before it's eaten.

One of my favorite parts of the eight-page draft falls under the background section, in which the committee explains what prompted the policy's creation. In this section, there are six specific examples of "misleading, intellectually flawed, or outright false statements." My own Student Voice gets a little publicity in this section, as a statement we published on the number of homeless in America was apparently false. Whoops. But the very fact that someone took the time to check on this proves my point: we are all thoroughly capable of evaluating sources. The individual who caught my boo-boo obviously has a strong, capable mind. He or she should not assume that other students lack this ability.

The writers of the policy have also determined the best way to learn is "when all individuals are exposed to ideas and proven knowledge, acquire proven knowledge, then advance that proven knowledge through the exercise of research, formation of new hypotheses, testing of new hypotheses, and finally, acceptance or disavowal of those proposed theories."

I'm a little confused here. To form theories, do we not have to examine hypotheses? And may not some of these hypotheses be considered radical or unbelievable? The Italian physicist Galileo was condemned in his time for his idea that the earth moved, and arrested for his belief that the sun was the center of the solar system. I wonder if the senate would have welcomed him on this campus.

I'm all for learning facts and proven theories. If we are paying someone to teach us, I would hope to be enriched by it in some way. If I go to see speakers on racial profiling, women in prison, whatever it may be—they better have done their research.

But I refuse to dismiss ideas without first determining if they mesh with my agenda.

Contact Information

If you have a story idea or are interested in becoming a member of The Student Voice staff, please feel free to call us on-campus at x8589 or off-campus at 754-2313. If you would like to submit an article, poem, letter to the editor, or other work, please email us at studentvoice@worcester.edu.

Leold

www.leold.com

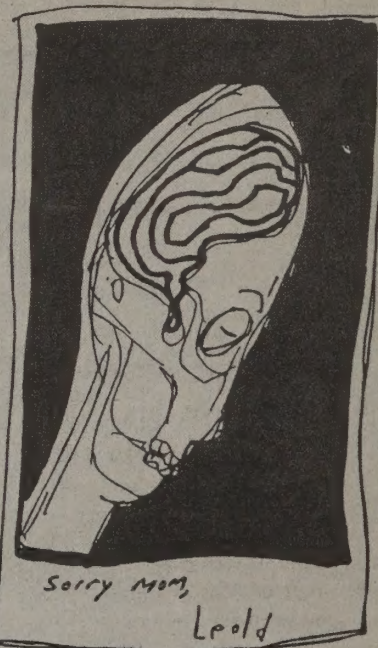
by Roger and Salem Salloom© 1997

*My mother says
when a woman gives birth
part of her mind comes
out with the baby and
that part is lost forever.*

*The hospital didn't
warn her about this.*

*She found out later
when I turned 15.*

*She said according
to Federal regulations,
she thinks when I move
out of the house she can
return to the hospital and
get it put back in her
head.*



VOICE FACTOID:

The Canadiens
have won 23 of 30
playoff series with
the Bruins.

Letters to the Editor

He defends Foley

Some smart aleck once said that the darkest hour is just before dawn. Yet another said that hope is more important than happiness. Reinforcing this construct, the Good Book promises heaven tomorrow for those who will silently, ungrudgingly and joyously suffer and persevere today.

I beg to come to the defense of Ms. Rebecca Foley who for the past few weeks has become the village's laughing stock who has had all stinging abuses hurled at. Ms. Foley seems to have offended the "politically correct" with her choice of WSC's President despite the fact that I am made to believe she was there because she had a right to make her own choice based on her own observations.

Ms. Foley acted I am convinced, without fear or favor of the crowd and if the president's search ended as a turning point in WSC'S History, I would beg to reaffirm that there is no reasonable defense except illogical reasoning that can counter the impact of a new idea.

The opposing forces claiming the wishes of the students' body were not taken into account should realize that a change is as good as a rest. Coming from an African culture where women are mostly considered second class citizens, I have come to have the strong belief that those who think so, are second class themselves. Nothing can stop an idea whose

time has arrived, it is common knowledge I believe and with the selection of a new President for our College, let us all stop cheap politicking and back biting and give her the support she needs to propel the college to the 'next level'.

The fundamentals of academics and existence at Worcester State College have not been changed by the coming of Dr. Ashley to break the tradition, for I am convinced more than ever before that we have handed Dr. Ashley an opportunity which she will grab with bare knuckles and work hard towards taking WSC to the anticipated level.

To echo the words of Lani Guinier, Ms. Foley's convictions and defense published in the last issue of *The Student Voice* is "Democracy in a different voice".

Sincerely,

Simon Ngugi

International student, class of 2005

"..She had a right to make her own choice based on her own observations."

Reader "totally upset" with Ball's comments on pub performer

Dear Editor:

I'm totally upset with Mr. Jake Ball's comments regarding Adam Richman's performance at the Pub on April 3, 2002. Grant you that Richman has a chip the size of Massachusetts on his shoulder and has a nasty attitude. But he's no Paul McCartney. He's a struggling artist touring the colleges selling his cd for a good price \$10.00 and tries his best. Can you, Mr. Ball, do a better job? Before you cast the first stone look into a mirror before throwing the stone.

—Paul Chapdelaine

Faithful readers:

This issue was your last chance this semester to send us letters for publication. The next, and last, issue this semester will be our (better late than never) April Fools *Vice*.

Those wishing to write a satirical or humorous piece, with a real or fake name, may send submissions to studentvoice@worchester.edu before May 3

Reader "honors" Williamson with the challenge of making *TSV* "dignified once again"

Like most Americans, I take a lot of freedoms for granted. Religious freedom, freedom from an intrusive government, the freedom to eat chocolate for breakfast; these are just a few of them. But one specific freedom usually gets as much criticism as it does applause...the freedom of speech. I believe this gift is taken for granted to the nth degree.

By no means is this intended to be a diatribe, but more of a gentle prodding toward a more educated community. This editorial has been several months in the making. It began when my friend was the editor of the Student Voice. This was a couple years ago, prior to the John Brown III period of control. At that time the Voice was a school newspaper; it had articles on important, interesting, or, at the very least, amusing topics. It was well laid-out and written quite effectively. It had a large staff of contributors who had genuine interest in their respective fields. The Student Voice was a high quality student newspaper. Then, there was an episode of amazingly unlearned behavior by both students and faculty alike. To spell out the entire sequence of events would take more space than allotted, would most likely be confusing, and is somewhat unnecessary. Suffice it to say that normally strong individuals became cowards when faced with conflict. Due to the backlash of

an ignorant executive staff at Worcester State College, the editor was encouraged to retire. Her forced resignation threw the Voice into complete disarray. Most of the staff was loyal to the editor and chose to leave the Voice because of the asinine attacks made on their leader. After a brief period of limbo, a new editor was chosen, and his name was John Brown III.

When John took control of the Voice, its most recent issue was a twenty-something page collection of actual journalism. The first issue under Brown control was six pages of advertising and drivel with maybe one page of actual written text. It was amazing. The Student Voice went from a compilation of journalistic integrity to fireplace fodder in one issue. Many thought it would get better over time, but, unfortunately, it did not. Upon reading an article one would find an abundance of ineffective reporting, often times unintelligible writing, and SPELLING ERRORS. Points are deducted in third grade comprehension class for spelling errors, but not in college newspapers. Would it not make sense that a reporter, especially the editor in chief of the paper itself, would know the difference between there, their, and they're; or effect and affect? It should be reiterated that this is not an attack on the character of John or any of his former staff. They're probably very nice people. Being nice, however, does not an effective journalist make. As an interjection, it should be noted that, as a fan of crossword puzzles, the Brown Voice was particularly painful. A spelling error here or there in an article may be a tired writer making a deadline, or a lazy editing process, but multiple spelling errors in a crossword puzzle are totally inexcusable.

Unsolvable crossword puzzles aside, bad journalism doesn't belong in a newspaper. It doesn't belong anywhere. And this is where our freedom of speech becomes bastardized.

The Student Voice became a disgrace as a newspaper. It was a toy for some friends in which to write about whatever they wanted regardless of whether it was fit to print. They could tell their friends they wrote for the school newspaper and feel cool. The phrase pick-up line comes to mind too. Everything that gets written does not necessarily deserve to be published. The freedom of speech does not exist so meaningless banter can be published. This nation fought for freedom from oppression and the right to pose the questions that needed asking. Real journalism, whether funny or insightful or political, is what needs defending. That struggle should never be taken for granted.

Last month the Voice ran an editorial by Joshua Katz praising the effectiveness of John Brown as an editor. The article was the match that lit the fire of what you are reading. The logs of ineffective writing, and poor decision-making had piled up over months of reading. The crossword puzzles missing enough clues to solve them were the kindling underneath. Katz's article drew it all together. Ms. Williamson, it is not known what you will bring to the paper. Your tenure is just beginning. Do not let the editorial by Mr. Katz discourage you. Bring

"Bad journalism doesn't belong in a newspaper. It doesn't belong anywhere. And this is where our freedom of speech becomes bastardized."

Editor's Note: Brendan A. McGrail, creator of the Voice's crossword puzzles, insists that while a clue or two may have been missed by the editor in some of his past puzzles, there have not been any spelling mistakes.

COMMENTARY

Men's Studies Program considered, sensitive white males discovered on campus

By Mark Wilmot
SPECIAL TO THE VOICE

Reports are surfacing that sensitive, caring, lower-class white males have been discovered thinking on campus. While not expressing alarm over the discovery, bystanders wonder if the discovery could lead to an increase in funding and expanded curriculum at Worcester State.

I admit it. I'm a lower-class white male, the counterpart to a lower-class Hispanic male, or lower-class black male. Yes, it's true; there really are lower-class, and even poor white males who have no straight and easy path to power and affluence in America. There are many of us enrolled at WSC.

Poor, decent white men from the lower economic spectrum are not recognized as a distinct group. Some people are against us. Society just lumps us in with rich white guys. Please believe me, there is an injustice being suffered here. Among the discrimination I have faced is discrimination in employment and housing. While serving in the military, I suffered harmful discrimination on several occasions because affirmative action mandated that Hispanic and black men and women, and even white women should be given promotion preferences in order to make the senior ranks more "diverse". The statistical manipulation behind this practice, and the results it produced make it particularly offensive. I'm attending college now just to earn a credential just so people will stop discriminating against me when I apply for jobs that I could easily perform in without a credential.

Few people have sympathy for my experience. Few seem to understand the concept of socioeconomic class discrimination verses the concept of the popular, easy-to-understand kind of racism. I have empathy for those who also experience injustice. And despite past disappointments in life, I'm not overly preoccupied about lost opportunity, but I do remain cognizant and concerned about issues facing society. I care.

Since arriving at WSC last fall, I have become increasingly baffled by many trends that prevail in academia and on our campus, especially the acceptance of opinions and agendas as fact, and a general lack of will to pursue and discuss truths that undermine modern, feminist, socialist, racist, environmental or liberal arguments which always seem to be surfacing as attacks on lower-class white men, the

establishment, American history, the U.S., and natural courses of biological existence. I'm also baffled why, as a male, or a white male in particular, I am considered by some to be the enemy, the abuser, and the oppressor.

After a discussion with other lower-class white males, I have to tell you that we have no connections at the country clubs, and do not attend meetings to celebrate past victories over women and minorities, nor do we plan the oppression of any group or individual.

What forces are contributing to the negative and erroneous image of white males? A recent poetry slam in the Student Center provided yet another clue that something is amiss in our collective thought process and behavior. Perhaps it was the demeanor of a few women performers, or perhaps it was the crowd's quiet acceptance of the crassness of words delivered with seething, angry emotion in what otherwise would have been an entertaining event. Others realize the distraction away from reality too, but they seldom speak up because the stakes of public self-expression against trends of alternative lifestyles, diversity, and multicultural issues are too high.

It is my opinion that when tiny rivers of anger, frustration and ignorance converge as they have these days, they burst forth as personal agenda often based on fallacy. Left unchallenged and misunderstood, personal agenda may snowball into group agenda, a crusade, and even become a college course or degree program. The problem is, there are negative consequences associated with allowing fallacies to cloud our thought and education processes, and those negative consequences cause counter-productive trends in our society, ultimately hurting everyone.

The mystery to me is why the great learning potential of academic freedom is being allowed to drift away from the big river of history, humanity and reality, toward tiny streams of fragmented truths and misconceptions often brought on by anger, personal frustration and experience, as well as ignorance.

The promulgated theories that men in general somehow conspire to hold women back, that men are the main cause of trouble with the world, and that white males have a pre-determined stronghold on power in society are examples of academic drift. These theories contribute to attacks on white males and manhood in general.

I wonder if the emergence, and growth of women's studies programs contributes to false and negative stereotyping of men. Does this trend of academics deepen a rift between the (mated, abused, disturbed, unsatisfied, or unselected) sexes, or lead to more closeness?

To study women's issues is not wrong, but to drift away from reality based on bad experience is. Most men are not abusive, but bad experiences do occur in relationships, and bad experiences may be overcome.

We can't afford to let our efforts at being wiser and more knowledgeable than previous generations be wasted. We need a commitment to understanding the past through facts, not emotions or "personal perspectives" of our modern self. It's dangerous. We need a commitment to understanding the past and building a better future, not by placing blame on each other, or on groups of races or genders, nations or entire civilizations, but by accepting people by the content of their character and the outcome of their actions.

Even though something is amiss in the college arena, I'm optimistic that I will continue to learn in the classroom. It is always a privilege to meet professors at WSC who bring knowledge and authenticity to the

classroom. They inspire me, and reaffirm my belief that I can contribute to the campus community even though I am a lower-class white male not recognized or respected by all.

So as we prepare for the arrival of our first female president at WSC, I would like to put forth provocative questions such as: Why isn't there a men's studies program in the Massachusetts college system? If it's a good idea to have a women's studies program, is it not equally good to have a men's? If women's issues need to be understood, especially by men, why don't we see men enrolling in the Women's Studies Program?

A men's studies program would be a valuable addition to our school's offerings. WSC should begin offering this program next fall, and women should be encouraged to enroll. I volunteer to assist in the program's development, or I could even be a case study.

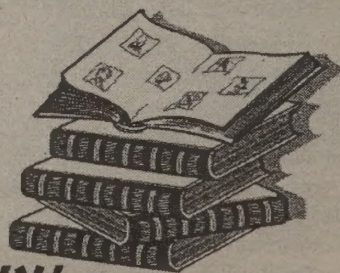
If a men's studies program can't be organized, I would be happy if we could just take a more honest approach to the education process in all programs, without blame, and seek to understand topics based on historical and scientific facts, cause and effect, and plain old common sense.

"Others realize the distraction away from reality too, but they seldom speak up because the stakes of public self-expression against trends of alternative lifestyles, diversity and multicultural issues are too high."



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Republicans lack unity, but display winning attitude

A student's observations at the recent Republican Convention

By Mark Wilmot
SPECIAL TO THE VOICE

The Massachusetts Republican Party hosted a meeting of delegates at the Lowell Convention Center April 6 that failed to bring the party together behind Mitt Romney, its newest candidate for state office.

Major splits among delegates created the impression that the Massachusetts GOP lacks unity even though all of its candidates were glowing with enthusiasm.

The first indication of a split occurred when party loyalists failed to endorse Romney's choice for lieutenant governor, Kerry Murphy Healey.

The GOP underwent several drastic adjustments just before the convention. Romney was virtually drafted into the race for governor during late February. His imminent candidacy became so strong that acting Massachusetts Governor Jane Swift, the senior ranking republican in the state, was forced to withdraw from the race to make room for the Romney candidacy.

Romney is considered the front-runner in the race because he is a millionaire businessman who just returned from successfully managing the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. His employment resume also includes being part of the business team that developed the Staples Office Supply store chain. Romney attempted to gain public office before, but lost a senate election against Senator Edward M. Kennedy during 1994.

Many party members expected Romney

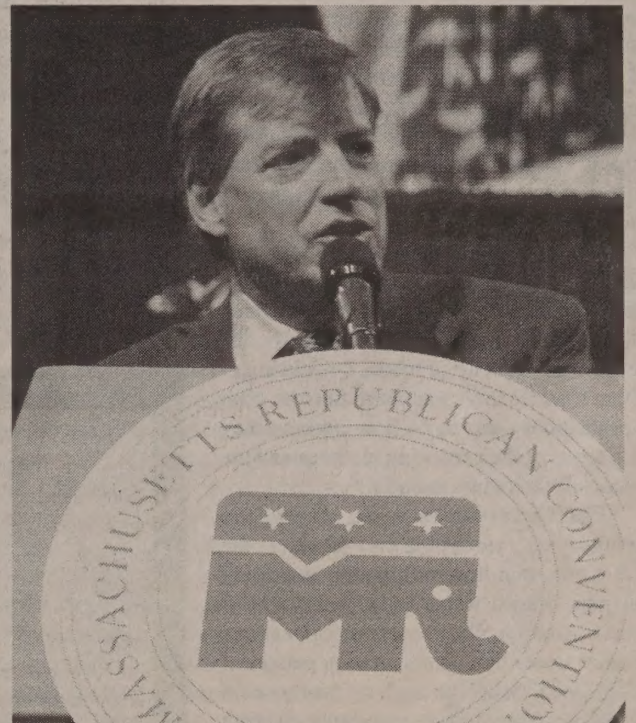
could have anything he wanted in order to win after Swift moved aside. He quickly selected Healey, a professional woman, as his running mate. Romney believed Healey's exceptional background of public policy expertise and academic accomplishments would complement his business expertise. Party loyalists rejected Romney's selection during the convention, instead voting to place Jim Rappaport, another millionaire businessman, on the ballot as the top choice for lieutenant governor. Because both Rappaport and Healey received more than 15 percent of the votes, both names will appear on the primary ballot.

The party delegates nominated former Registry of Motor Vehicles Chief Daniel Grabauskas as their candidate for state treasurer. Grabauskas is credited with developing the commonwealth's state-of-the-art, enhanced emissions and safety inspection program.

The second and more curious sign of a lack of republican unity came when Jack E. Robinson was endorsed as the party's candidate for secretary of state. Robinson tends to attract attention because he is a successful and wealthy black American who does not fit the mold of a typical republican. The GOP has been slow to fully endorse Robinson, who ran against Sen. Kennedy in the 2000 election for senator, despite his demonstrated commitment to party causes for several years. Robinson and Worcester City Councilor Juan Gomez of were just a few of the minorities that could be spotted at the convention center but their presence was felt everywhere. Both men displayed the kind of enthusiasm and public speaking skills required to move the delegates to action. Their

speeches were greeted with heavy applause.


Despite the GOP's lack of unity, all of their candidates share the same view of limiting taxes, protecting families and helping the state economy. Most surprising of all is the enthusiasm and positive message of the republican candidates, something that well may separate them from the democrats. If the republicans' demeanor is any indication of how they will do in the November election, it appears they will all be winners.



Jim Rappaport, the party's top choice for lieutenant governor

PHOTO BY MARK WILMOT

The Choruses of the Worcester Consortium Present:



Johannes Brahms
Ein Deutsches Requiem
A German Requiem
Opus 45

Anna Maria College — Clark University — College of the Holy Cross
Worcester Polytechnic Institute — Worcester State College

Johannes Brahms
Ein Deutsches Requiem
A German Requiem
Opus 45
For Chorus, Soli and Orchestra

Under the direction of
Bruce Miller

Kristyn Snyder, soprano
Dana Whiteside, baritone

3:30pm, April 28, 2002 — Mechanics Hall
General Admission \$15.00
Students, Seniors and Starving Artists \$8.00

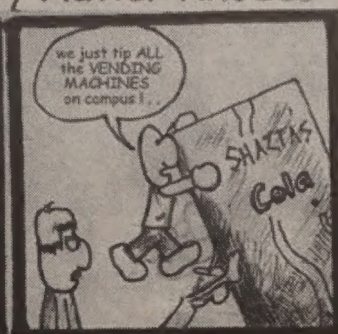
2:30pm pre-concert lecture by John Delorey

Anna Maria College Mary Lynn Ritchey, conductor	Worcester Polytechnic Institute John Delorey, conductor
Clark University Andrew Clark, conductor	Worcester State College Christie Nigro, conductor
	College of the Holy Cross Bruce Miller, conductor

The Adventures of Jack Dogg

is a regular feature of the *The Student Voice*. Let its artist, Xavier Rhodes, know what you think, by visiting his website, www.jackdogg.com

Jack Dogg



By Xavier Rhodes

EVALUATIONS from page 1

Reina says that the good instructors at the college are "the ones who take their time to help the students, who really care about how the students are doing and how well they can perform." But she also feels that there are some professors who are just punching their timecards and putting in their time. "Some of them just go to class, give their lectures and don't work outside the class with their students. Teachers need to take their time with the students. We are paying for our education, so we deserve, and they need to give us, a good education."

Carlos Fontes is one of WSC's new breed of avant-garde professors. As a recently tenured professor, Fontes refuses to sit on his laurels and bask in his accomplishment. Instead, he says he is always hunting for new and better techniques with which to ply his teaching skills, so that his students can derive all they can from both his classes and their overall college education.

"I think that faculty, administration and students may have slightly different goals in the evaluation process," Fontes said. "We are three different groups and we all want slightly different things (from the process). I would imagine that what teachers want is, to find out from the evaluations—as a tool—how effective they are in terms of their teaching methods and the contents of their class material."

Fontes assumes that, from the administration's viewpoint, the evaluations are used to ascertain how well people are doing their jobs, who it wants to keep and who it doesn't. Additionally, Fontes thinks that there are other issues that administration personnel use the assessments for, such as, professional advancement, merit raises and tenure. "I don't think teachers particularly care about that part," he said. "Instead, they are focused more on evaluations that concern their teaching."

Thirdly, Fontes believes that, through the medium of their evaluations, students want to have a voice in the process. He says that students wish to support faculty who they feel are doing a good job, and also want to discipline others who they feel are not.

Fontes says that many faculty members tend to use their own questions, and use their own evaluations. "As a teacher, I give more importance to the descriptive evaluations than I give to the numbers. The descriptive evaluation has more information and tells me more about what I'm doing." He is more interested in mid-semester surveys because they allow professors to make mid-course corrections.

Like Fontes, WSC English professor Mary Lynn Saul, is committed to the necessity of independent descriptive questionnaires as a tool for self-evaluation, and a revision of material in order to hone her teaching skills. "Most

of the people I know here really take the job seriously. What I often do is ask students to give me hand-written comments ... just for my own benefit," she said.

Saul thinks the standard test can be useful, albeit, the new form is better than the old one. She said that the older form was a big problem for the students and instructors alike. "There was this disjunction between what the students thought the questions meant and what the professors understood the questions to mean. It caused a lot of problems," she said.

"That's why I give the surveys with the written comments. Students write, 'I like this part of the course; I hated this book' and so forth. I can understand that. But when you get back numbers that say 4.1 on this item, and 3.9 on another, is that good? Should I worry? Should I be happy?" Saul says that there is no way a professor can evaluate his or her performance by using the standardized test results because no high-low scale is provided to them. "Maybe people don't realize that we need some guidance about what a good score or a bad score is," she said.

Many of WSC's professors began to issue

Upperclassman Eric Olson says that he's only done one teacher evaluation form in the three years he's been at Worcester State College.

their own student-faculty surveys when the evaluation process was disrupted for about a year because of the absence of a contract. "Although the contract negotiations went on for about three and a half years, there was about a year where there were no formal evaluations given out by the college at all," Saul said.

Upperclassman Eric Olson says that he's only done one teacher evaluation form in the three years he's been at the college. "I think there should be more of it," he said. Olson thinks that one of the dangers of the evaluation process is that students might be inclined to opt for the easier professor than the more difficult one. "Some students might have a tendency to say that a professor is great when he or she has a reputation for being an easy grader, and if it's a harder professor, they're automatically going to say that they're not a good professor just because they are more difficult."

WSC student Amanda Savista took issue with Olson's ideas. "There are honest people here, and their opinions should count. I had a math teacher here who I felt was too easy, and therefore, I thought 'more difficult teachers can teach you more,'" she said.

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PROTOCOL from page 1

More than two years after its approval, many professors and staff members don't know the document exists.

A random sampling of 20 staff and faculty members showed that 90 percent, upon viewing the document, either didn't remember seeing the protocol, and/or were unfamiliar with its contents.

"I saw this quite a while ago," said Tim Sullivan, Director of Student Activities. "I know I filed it somewhere..."

"I remember getting a flier on sexual harassment," said Philip Burns, chair of the English Department. "I have not read this. I may have gotten it."

Haber, who helped create the protocol, believes that the faculty's unfamiliarity with it shows that it needs to be more widely distributed. "That's why it's so crucial, every fall, to make those part of first-day orientation for staff and students. Stacks of them should be placed around campus. That was definitely what we had agreed on in the committee that put together both versions of the protocols," she explained.

What many campus community members do know, however, is that Gaston is the person they should contact if made aware of a sexual assault. Gaston was hired for the new position of sexual assault coordinator around the time the final version of the protocol had been drafted. Since the summer of 2000, she has contributed to freshman seminars, spoken in countless classes about sexual assault, distributed informational pamphlets, and has had a full schedule of students who seek her counseling.

"I haven't seen this protocol, but I'm aware that I can refer people to (Gaston)," said psychology professor Ruth Ostenson, reflecting the sentiments of various other faculty and staff members.

Haber believes that Gaston's extensive job responsibilities put her in "a difficult position."

"If she's supposed to be in charge of education, materials, holding regular meetings, teaching, and serving on committees, things are not going to get done," Haber said. "Let her focus on things specifically the responsibility of sexual assault coordinator," added Haber, noting that Gaston's expertise puts her in the valuable position of being one of the few qualified people on campus to train advocates. Gaston has been counseling for 24 years, and is certified in techniques for traumatic experiences.

Haber fears that Gaston may not have the full support of the administration. When the college decided it was going to create the position of sexual assault coordinator, Haber wondered how much freedom he or she would have to "get things done." She questioned the president about this issue. "I asked him, if conditions are ever such that the administration would make it difficult for the sexual assault coordinator to do what he or she needs to do aggressively to make it effective, are there any safeguards? Can this person stand up to the administration without risking his or her job? The president was absolutely honest with me; he said 'no.'"

Gaston said she has gotten "good support from the administration," noting that the college has supported her submission of a pre-

sensation on sexual assault and harassment, to a conference in Orlando, Fla.

Gaston, after being asked if she felt busy, replied "more than you realize." "She's out there really working with people to help them recover," Haber said.

A random sampling of 20 staff and faculty members showed that 90 percent, upon viewing the sexual assault protocol, either didn't remember seeing it, or were unfamiliar with its contents.

Included in Gaston's responsibilities, as listed in the protocol, is to "train volunteer advocates for sexual assault survivors."

Potential volunteer advocates, Gaston explained, would need to complete 45 hours of training through the Rape Crisis Center, as well as pass a Criminal Offender Record Information check. Gaston says she has not trained advocates because she cannot find them. "We've never been able to get that going," Gaston said.

Instead, Gaston prefers to offer the Rape Crisis Center's services to survivors of sexual assault, because a hotline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

"Originally it was understood that students were supposed to be trained," said Bonnie Kanner of the Psychology Department, another member of the SART. "My understanding is that it's costly."

"It's the administration's job to find the money," Haber said.

Tom Saban, Director of Administration and Finance, and according to Haber, the only administrator that came forward to help the original safety and security committee, was concerned after being made aware that certain specifications in the protocol were not being met. Saban says that since the protocol came into existence, and Gaston was hired as sexual assault coordinator, he has been "out of the loop."

"The safety and security committees ceased to meet, because it was said that the

Haber asked Ghosh, "Can the (sexual assault coordinator) stand up to the administration without risking his or her job?" He said "no."

sexual assault coordinator would handle matters pertaining to sexual assault," Saban said. But despite his feeling somewhat removed from the situation, Saban says he still has a great concern for student safety, and specifically, "behavior on campus."

"Are we adhering to the standards that we've set?" asked Saban, adding that reactive rather than proactive behavior is "something that we may have done in the past."

"We don't want to fall back into that rut," he said.

Chief Naughton feels that it is crucial to rebuild the credibility of the college's procedures. Naughton was hired soon after the protocol had been established and distributed. Though she says she was not around at the time the alleged cover-up took place, she is familiar with how the administration dealt with the situation. "The worst thing is a perception of a cover-up; a lot of times, perception is reality," she said.

Naughton also adheres to the idea that people in authority "should be questioned."

One question posed to Gaston was why the SART had not been meeting regularly. Explaining that she is "bound under confidentiality," Gaston said that sometimes the survivor of sexual assault reacts in such a way that makes it unnecessary for the SART to meet. Ultimately responsible for initializing the distribution of campus advisories, the SART, according to Gaston, does not need to meet if the survivor asks that a campus advisory be posted.

However, the protocol itself does not include this provision. "The Sexual Assault Counselor will consult with the SART as soon as possible or no later than 2 business days after receiving a report of a sexual assault," it reads.

Gaston explained that one of the SART's potential duties, would be to determine if the college community faced some sort of danger that would merit a campus advisory being posted—even if the survivor argued against it. "We've never had that situation," Gaston said.

The college seems to have difficulty with hypothetical situations, as it has shown in the past to make poor decisions regarding certain circumstances—specifically, those of sexual assault. Campus community members fear that a continued pattern of reactive rather than proactive action will produce grave results for survivors who may not know how to report incidences of assault.

The U.S. Justice Department estimates that one in 10 college women will be raped, and 5 percent of rapes are reported to authorities. According to a report, "The Sexual Victimization of College Women," released in January by the Justice Department's National Institute of Justice and Bureau Statistics, 41 percent of these women failed to report rape either because they were unsure of how to report, or feared that the authorities would not think their problems were serious.

Haber wonders how serious the college's "commitment to change" is.

The college does indeed have a protocol for sexual assault; the law requires it. As a result of the 1999 Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy Act, WSC, along with every college in the nation, became required "to develop as part of their annual security report their policies regarding the awareness and prevention of sexual assaults."

But many may wonder, what good is a protocol that lacks full implementation? For its part, the SART agreed in its April 9 meeting to make the protocol more widely available in the fall. However, these same intentions were made almost two years ago.

"There's a problem of promising reform and hoping that everyone will forget that promises were made," Haber said.

Some campus community members fear that a continued pattern of reactive rather than proactive action will produce grave results for survivors who may not know how to report incidences of assault.

"There's a problem of promising reform and hoping that everyone will forget that promises were made," Haber said.

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THERE MAY BE NO *STUDENT VOICE* NEXT YEAR

Worcester State College may not have a Student Voice next year.

We simply haven't had the help to make this paper the unifying force on campus that it could be.

I don't want to throw in the towel; I really don't. I love writing. I love editing. I love feedback--positive and negative.

But the hours I've spent working on this paper every other weekend--often times, alone--somewhat detracts from the glory I feel every time an issue goes to print.

I don't know what I've done wrong, what has kept so few people from getting involved. I'm not evil. I am opinionated, but in this business, you have to be. Ultimately, I would like as many voices as possible to be heard--even if they aren't my own.

Maybe I haven't tried hard enough to recruit. Could it be that there aren't any people on this campus who would like to see their words in print? We can't all be that modest.

I suppose I'm just not offering enough incentive. The free t-shirt for people who right an article just doesn't cut it, I guess.

How about the incentive of being part of an organization that has the infinite capability of earning respect and prestige on this campus?

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If I have six regularly-contributing staff members next semester (excluding the editorial board), the show will go on. If not, the college will either have to find new leadership for the Voice, or do away with it indefinitely.

This is my plea. Simply stated, I need your help.

If you're interested in page lay-out, jump aboard. The paper is put together entirely on computers. Interested in photography? This is the place for you. Our budget leaves us room to buy a digital camera--we just need someone to use it. Advertising? We have a business manager, but I'm sure she'd love some help recruiting advertisers. Music? All it takes is a quick phone call, and any album can be sent right to us--provided we review it. And for all your cartoonists out there: wouldn't it be nice to have thousands of people see your work?

Those are just some of the things you can do at the Voice. And I have barely even touched on the writing aspect of it.

Please don't let these opportunities go to waste. The Student Voice doesn't have to be an 8-page paper of lectures and issues people may not care about. The more of you that join the staff, the better I'll know what your priorities are--and how the paper can be something you actually look forward to every other week.

If nothing else, it looks great on a resume.

If you're even the slightest bit interested, or even a little unsure, please drop me a note (**third floor of Student Center**) or an email (**studentvoice@worchester.edu**). We can talk individually, and I can attempt to use my powers of persuasion to encourage you to join. With your help, The Student Voice can be so much more than it has been.

Don't let the Student Voice disappear.
Join the staff, or find some other way to
contribute.

Students fed up with eating disorders

More colleges need programs to help

By Cheryl Damore
SPECIAL TO THE VOICE

"For me, I always felt like the girls who had what they wanted in their lives were the thin, pretty ones...."

This is the thought of a young, female student at Northeastern University who has suffered from an eating disorder. Male and female college students every day are facing demons that encompass their heads, thoughts that tell them that to be successful, to be accepted, and to perform well athletically, one needs to be thin.

According to www.worldcollegehealth.org, 5 to 20 percent of females and 1 to 7 percent of males have eating disorders. The College Student Journal reports that 61 percent of college students polled have displayed eating disorder behaviors, which include using laxatives, diuretics, diet pills, and irregularly intense exercise regimens.

A group of former and current college students interviewed estimated that 14.8 percent of males and 38 percent of females suffered from eating disorders. Those interviewed represented Worcester State College, Framingham State College, UMASS-Amherst, University of Michigan, Bloomsburg University, Northeastern University, and Providence College.

These demons often rear their ugly heads in the form of anorexia nervosa and bulimia. Anorexia nervosa is the intense fear of gaining weight and a person's belief that he or she is fat, even though he or she is actually thin. Anorexics restrict their intake of calories, avoid situations where they have to eat in front of others, have unusual eating habits or rituals, obsessively exercise, express fatigue, and isolate themselves from others. Additionally, severe physical effects such as dizziness, low blood pressure, and cardiac arrest, may result.

Bulimics may eat in secret, go to the bathroom immediately after eating, experience mood swings, abuse alcohol or other substances, over-exercise, and isolate themselves from others.

Symptoms of bulimia may include having damaged teeth, swollen cheeks, showing fatigue, exhibiting dehydration, having an electrolyte imbalance, bleeding and infection of the throat, enlargement of the salivary glands, digestive and intestinal problems, and an irregular menstrual cycle.

Some students polled wondered if college dining halls actually help students make decisions not to eat.

Those interviewed had a firm grasp on what the signs of anorexia and bulimia are. "Bulimia is bingeing and purging. Anorexia is the fear of eating," said Jenn Johnson, 20, of Framingham State College.

Where do these demons come from? According to former WSC student Shannon Lally, 23, "Females want to look good and have fun, males want to be the best in their sport so they feel that they have to lose weight in order to be on top."

According to a Northeastern University senior, "For anyone, I think it is usually more of a symptom of something else not being right. Lack of self-esteem is a big factor that leads to it. No one just wakes up in the morning and says, I think I'll be anorexic today. It's caused by something else that's wrong, depression, lack of self esteem, etc."

The demons do stem from something else not being right, like depression, lack of self-esteem, and peer pressure. Eating disorders are diseases, according to Rader Programs, because they have a destructive process for a

person, with a specific cause, and show characteristic symptoms. They have been proven to come from genetic, sociological, and psychological factors.

According to Rader Programs, many researchers believe that there is an inherited factor to having an eating disorder. It has been discovered by researchers that the neurotransmitters serotonin and neuroepinephrine are decreased in people suffering from eating disorders, and that the lack of serotonin causes one never to feel full enough, causing bingeing to occur.

The hormones vasopressin and cortisol in the brain that are usually released in response to physical, and sometimes, emotional stress, have been proven to have higher levels in those people with eating disorders. The levels of the neuropeptide-Y and peptide-YY, which stimulate hunger, are also higher in those with eating disorders. Cholecystokinin, or CCK, has been found to be low in women with eating disorders, causing them not to feel satisfied after eating a meal, and continually binge.

Today's society, through magazines, advertisements, and other media, is told that in order to be successful or accepted, one must be beautiful. The local college dorm, sorority house, or dining hall may be no different.

The pressure from the media is minimal compared to the pressures a college student will face every day. While trying to get used to doing their own laundry, getting themselves up for class, making friends, at-

The College Student Journal reports that 61 percent of college students polled have displayed eating disorder behaviors, including using laxatives, diuretics, diet pills, and irregularly intense exercise regimens.

tending classes, doing homework, late-night study sessions, and the many other tasks that college brings, food may become the last thing on the mind of a continually-busy student. With these new stresses, excessive worrying may occur. Food intake, or lack of, becomes one thing that students are able to control in their otherwise uncontrolled lives.

Does the pressure come from within or from, peers, family, or other causes?

According to Katelyn Descoteaux, 20, of Providence College, "I think that it is more a self-confidence issue because a lot of their peers are in good shape...and this is usually the time that people look their best."

"It's even worse in the café at school watching everyone eating only salad," Johnson said.

Johnson believes that unhealthy eating is accepted at college it is. "Everyone in college eats unhealthy at times. It's the 2 a.m. beer and pizza," she said.

All of the current and former college students interviewed have heard of the infamous "freshman 15," the term given to the 15 pounds that many students gain during their first year of college. However, 50 percent of those polled gained the freshman 15, while the other 50 percent actually lost weight. "I ate healthier when I lived at school then I do now," Lally said. According to the only male who agreed to be interviewed, he had other thoughts about the freshman 15. "How the heck am I going to gain 15 pounds my freshman year, was my reaction. I did not think I was going to eat any differently from before, perhaps more junk and fast food, but nothing too dramatically different."

Some students polled wondered if college dining halls actually help students make decisions not to eat. Johnson says, "You are not forced to eat [and] if you didn't go to the café and eat all semester no one would notice."

"In most cases it's absolutely disgusting. It's easy for someone in college to say, 'the café is serving _____ today. It looks like s—. I'm not going to eat that,'" said an ex-sorority member from UMASS.

According to www.worldcollegehealth.org, it is not uncommon that when one person in a dorm or in a fraternity house develops an eating disorder, it can become a widespread trend. For example, according to the College Student Journal, at a large Northeastern University sorority house, sandwich bags that disappeared from kitchens were found hidden in the basement, filled with vomit.

According to those interviewed, though, most saw this as a misconception. "It happened in my sorority house and everyone saw how much our friend suffered and how weak she got - it made them not want to have a sickness like that," the ex-UMass sorority member explained. Lally, though, disagreed. "If one person stops eating of [starts] throwing up I'm sure it will have an impact on the rest of the house," she said.

Those interviewed agree that living on campus would cause more eating disorders than those commuting from home. "Your parents aren't on you to eat right," Descoteaux said.

While pressure obviously comes from the media and peers at school,

what about pressure from within?

Studies have shown that a person with an eating disorder is most likely to be Caucasian, middle to high class, and a perfectionist, according to the Journal of American College Health. According to the Northeastern student, "I tend to be a perfectionist, and when things don't go right for me, I look to something I can do to help, and it manifested itself in an obsession with exercise and with my weight. For me, pressure from school or from comparing myself to my peers compounded my problems."

Winter break also may compound the problems of people with eating disorders. They may view the break as a struggle. At school, they can hide their eating habits/disorders, but at home, their families may be more likely to notice a problem. The Northeastern student commented, "It's harder when I'm with my parents, because I feel so much pressure to have to eat when I'm with them. So many family things revolve around food, that it makes it difficult."

Most people interviewed agreed that professors and resident assistants are not very helpful in regards to recognizing and helping eating disorders. "With such large classes and short semesters or quarters, it's hard for profs to get to know the students well enough to notice when something isn't right. As for RA's, I've never had too much interaction with them," the Northeastern student said. There is hope, though, as Dana Trojan, a Bloomsbury University student, said, "Last year when I lived in the dorms, there was a case when our cleaning ladies had noticed girls were bulimic, and told the RA's and then that sparked a whole lot of programs."

Psychologically, are these eating disorders masking other problems and connected to other problems as well? According to the Rader Programs, low self-esteem, depression, feelings of loss of control, feelings of worthlessness, identity concerns, and family communication problems are all associated with eating disorders. Antidepressant drugs are now not only being used for those dealing with depression, but also those dealing with eating disorders, because the two diseases have been proven to be connected. Those interviewed agreed 100 percent. The Northeastern student said, "For me, there was pretty much a whole sequence to it. If I don't eat, I won't be fat, I'll get what I want in my life, I'll be happier. It's a whole vicious cycle. It's more of a symptom of something else not being right."

Studies have shown that a person with an eating disorder is most likely to be white, middle to high class, and a perfectionist

Pressure is also ever-present among college athletics. According to the NCAA News and www.mysportsguru.com, "a study in the spring of 1996 at Cornell University found that 10 percent of football players surveyed had eating disorders and 40 percent displayed dysfunctional eating patterns, leading some to suggest that eating disorders among male athletes is rising." The ex-sorority member from UMASS said, "In wrestling, guys have to maintain a certain weight in order to compete. I remember that one of my friends would binge the day before a meet in order to gain a few more pounds that he needed or he would starve himself and go to a sauna to try to sweat off extra weight."

"I have a friend who is in the national ballet more DISORDERS, next page

Student Senate proposes new policy

By Brendan A. McGrail
MANAGING EDITOR

The Student Senate, with "strong support from the student body," has written a proposal for the implementation of a Policy of Intellectual Integrity at Worcester State College.

If adopted, the policy would be the first of its kind in the Massachusetts state college system.

According to the proposal, President Kalyan K. Ghosh, members of the faculty and staff, as well as the student body, have already expressed "enthusiastic support" for the policy's adoption.

The senate explained that such a policy is necessary, because at present "educators, guest speakers, visitors and organizations are free to present material to audiences without consideration of the material's balance, bias, validity or accuracy."

The policy would require that all presentations of information on campus, including lectures by professors, be anchored in "fact, research or sustainable argument." If not, the audience must be given "adequate knowledge" that the material may be based all or in part on opinion.

This policy, which was begun in October 2001, arose from a consensus in the senate that students were, at times, being misinformed or otherwise misled by professors, lecturers, textbooks, on-campus posters, etc.

Citing several examples of such misinformation that have been encountered on campus, the senate provides a solid foundation for both its concern and its proposal.

"The Student Senate firmly believes that a liberal, unbiased, and fair educational environment can only be preserved when all persons in that environment adhere to a policy that promotes Intellectual Integrity in all venues of communication and education," the proposal states.

The policy would require administrators, educators and guest speakers on campus to agree to the following terms:

1. Ensure lectures are relevant to the course objective.
2. Ensure that lecture material is reasonably supported by adequate facts or research.
3. Ensure textbooks are screened for accuracy before acceptance, and that in case

of erroneous information or statistics, students be made aware of correct facts.

4. Ensure the education environment and state tax dollars are not improperly used for political aims or the advancement of special interests at the expenses of education.

5. Ensure that personal opinion, perspective, or point of view is identified as such.

6. Ensure course curriculums are based on sound research, and/or statistical facts consistent with meeting course objectives.

7. Ensure that printed material, handouts, and posters are based on fact. If not based on fact, ensure that an adequate disclaimer is announced or made visible.

8. Ensure all guest speakers at the college are made aware of this policy and that the host of each event be accountable for correction of erroneous information.

9. Ensure infractions of the Intellectual Integrity policy are promptly corrected, and if not corrected, reported to the administration, the student senate, and the Student Voice.

"This policy does not attempt to restrict free speech or the expression of different points of view," the proposal states, "but instead demands that each person in the academic setting take responsibility for ensuring that our learning environment remains free from possible corruption."

The proposal further asserts, "The learning process is best served when all individuals acquire proven knowledge."

The policy would require that all presentations of information on campus, including lectures by professors, be anchored in "fact, research or sustainable argument."

The proposed policy is all-encompassing in its scope, and requires that members of the community report the aforementioned instances of intellectual malfeasance as soon as possible.

"Complaints of intellectual dishonesty," according to the proposal, "may be made in writing and brought directly to the attention of the college administration for action."

DISORDERS from previous page

in Canada, and all they have to eat there is salad with low-fat dressing and veggies," Johnson added.

With the ever-increasing need to address these diseases on campus, are colleges and universities taking the initiative to educate males and females about eating disorders, and offering help to those already suffering? According to those interviewed, Northeastern offers a program at their counseling center and health center, as does Framingham State College and Bloomsburg University, while Providence College offers seminars and hands out material about healthy eating. Those interviewed from Worcester State College, the University of Michigan, and UMass were unaware of any existing programs.

Are these programs being used on campuses, and more importantly, are those with problems likely to seek help? The ex-sorority member says, "If I had one I would seek help. I think that other people seek help only if they recognize that they are doing something wrong.

Some people think that they are all right and don't realize the damage they are doing to themselves. They think that it is the only way they can lose weight."

"People might not seek help unless they realize they have a problem, or someone close to them realizes that they have a problem," said the male student. "[I would like to see] programs that not only help people deal with current problems, but keep track of these people to help reinforce what they learned," he said.

Descoteaux would like to see programs that, "make girls feel better about themselves, tell them being skinny isn't everything, have guys talk [to] show that they don't like girls that are all skin and bones, boost their self-confidence!"

Speaking as someone who had an eating disorder, the Northeastern student said, "People seek help when they're ready for it. Until then, nothing can help them, unfortunately."

Don't miss out on Spring Week

Tuesday, April 23rd

Air-Ball w/ prize cube
5:30-8:30
Athletic Field



Wednesday, April 24th

Treasure Hunt
Polaroid Pics
10am-2pm
Exhibit Area



Thursday, April 25th

Talent Show
7:30pm-10:30pm
Blue Lounge
Comedic...Eddie Ifft



Prize Money
1st place \$200.00
2nd place \$100.00
3rd place \$75.00

Friday, April 26th

Massages
10:00am-1:00pm
Exhibit Area



Semi-Formal
6:00pm, Crowne Plaza
\$30.00 per ticket

Movie Vanilla Sky
9:00pm, OLP

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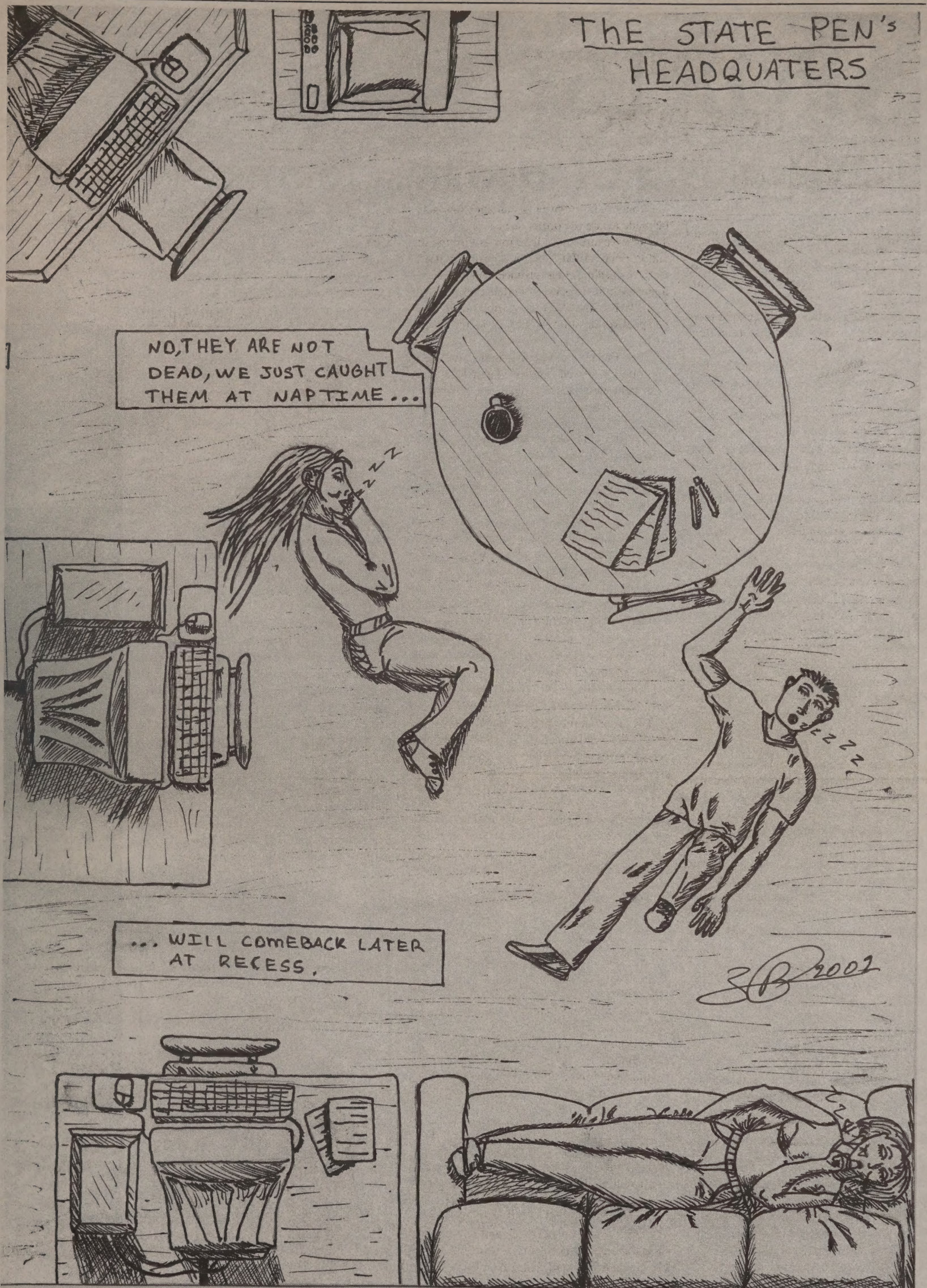
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This is just a sample of what's to come from Beyser Zuniga, the newest addition to *The Voice* staff. Beyser's talent allows him to create drawings from myriad vantage points, both visual and mental. Look for his next creation in *The Vice*, the pseudo paper that gets printed. No, not the State Pen! *The Vice* is pseudo-journalism by design, not by accident. The hard-working *Voice* writers get to flex their creative muscles to write humorous and satiric stories disguised as news articles. This edition is also open to any student who wants to submit a humorous piece. There is no stepping over the line in *The Vice*, so feel free to sharpen your rapier wits before hitting the keyboard.

SPORTS

Wormtown Club to host tourney

By Mike Horgan

WSC STUDENT AND WORCESTER RUGBY CLUB RECRUITER

It's been over six months now since the attacks on our country stopped the activities of the world. Sept. 11 marked a day when the people of the world would begin to take a closer look into their own lives and make an attempt to discern what it was that many of us are exactly doing here. While there are so many of us who are now looking deeper into the meanings and reasons of our being, there was always a group who never thought about these questions but merely parlayed them into a daily duty of protecting our right to have them. And in the wake of the attacks on New York City we have all come to realize this group and to hold them in a much higher appreciation than many of us had ever realized. There were more than 300 members of the International Association of Fire Fighters who perished on that day in September. Members of a distinct group, who in times of tragedy run head on into the epicenter while thousands of others flee. We here in Worcester know this story all too well.

Following the days after Sept. 11 it was learned that the town of Rockaway, N.Y., was a particularly devastated area of the state. Rockaway has always been known for its working class roots and being more than proud of the members of the community who hold these positions. With firefighters long being a symbol of the brotherhood of working class Americans, the community of Rockaway was now dealt a crushing blow. While you may not know it, Rockaway and Worcester are tied very closely to one another through another similar brotherhood.

The sport of rugby has always been a working class sport. It takes little to no money to congregate a group of teammates to venture off onto a pitch somewhere and form a club. What it does take are the things that are found

deep inside all of us: a great deal of integrity, pride, passion, determination, and some simple organization. It should come to you as no surprise then that out of these working class ashes has arisen one of the best rugby teams in the country, right here in post-industrial era Worcester, Massachusetts. On down in Rockaway, NY, out of similar ashes, was formed another almost identical rugby team, founded with the same spirit and passion that formed the Worcester Men's Rugby Club here in old Wormtown some 25 years ago, now a Division I National Championship contender. The two clubs became tremendous rivals in the 1980s, when old college friends began playing for the opposing clubs, and the friendly rivalry continues to this day. The two clubs were not only founded on the same spirits, but continue to hold all of the founding values true to every member of the organization.

The relationship between the sport of rugby and the work of firefighters is remarkably similar and the two have been compared many times. Being a member of a rugby club is often referred to as being a member of an international brotherhood, as can be attested to by any member of a club here in the states who has traveled elsewhere in the world and simply acquired a squadron of friends by walking onto a pitch during a practice. Firefighters are known the world over by their own strong and tight brotherhood, as can be attested to by the massive showing of firefighters who attended the memorial ceremonies here in Worcester after our own tragedy in December of 1999. Thousands of firefighters the world over came together on that day in Worcester to honor the six fallen firefighters from our own city. It was an amazingly massive and gracious showing.

It is with this same spirit that forms the brotherhood of firefighters and the brotherhood of

ruggers that the Worcester Men's Rugby Club, with the full support of the Worcester Fire Department, members of the Rockaway FDNY and the International Association of Fire-Fighters, will hold a massive charity benefit for the families of the fallen firefighters and EMS personnel from New York who tragically perished while risking their lives in an effort to save others on that day in September.

The Worcester Men's Rugby Club will take on The Rockaway New York Firefighters All-Star Rugby Team at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 22, at Foley Stadium, in a contest in honor of those who were taken from their homes and families on Sept. 11. It will be a highly contested and emotional match, as members of both clubs will be initially led onto the pitch by the Worcester Firefighters Bagpipe and Drum Brigade. Halftime of the match will include the 2nd Annual Induction Ceremony of former members into the Worcester Rugby Club Hall of Fame as well as a \$10,000 kick attempt for a lucky raffle winner. At the conclusion of the match there will be a check presentation to Artie Fitzpatrick at center field, as well as a chance to meet members of the FDNY who were at ground zero just days after the attacks, and the opportunity to offer personal thanks and gratitude from members of one great city to these bravest of brave men from another great city.

The evening's events will be preceded by an all day rugby tournament, which the members of The Worcester Rugby Club will also host. The events for the charity benefit match will begin approximately at 7 p.m. Crowds are expected to number in the thousands for this opportunity to meet and greet the actual heroes of Sept. 11.

UPCOMING LANCER SPORTS

The **baseball** and **softball** teams will head to Mass College of Liberal Arts Saturday, each to play a doubleheader in their last contests before the MASCAC Tournaments.

Men's tennis visits Western New England at 3:30 p.m. today, and will travel to play UMass-Boston at 3 p.m. Saturday in its last match of the season.

Women's lacrosse plays host to Clark at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, and then Lasell at 11 a.m. Saturday.



COURTESY OF WORMTOWNRUGBY.COM

The Worcester Rugby Club, shown above, will host an all-day rugby tournament on Saturday, June 22, at Foley Stadium. The final match will be WRFC against the Rockaway, N.Y. Firefighters All-Star Rugby team. Fans will have a chance to win \$10,000.

Worcester State's own, Greg Bennett, was recently chosen to play for the Worcester Kings, the city's newest forum for professional sport. The Kings play in the Premier Development League, where players under 23 are given the opportunity to hone their skills and gain some notariety without losing their amateur standing.

The Kings' 14 home games will be played at Coughlin Field this spring and summer. Student tickets are only \$3. Congratulations, Greg!